



**MI INNOVATION
ALLIANCE**
Michigan Collaborations.
Global Impact.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Winners announced for Global Automotive & Mobility Innovation Challenge

DETROIT, April 13, 2016 – [SAE International](#), in partnership with [MI Innovation Alliance](#) and [NextEnergy](#), announced the winners of the 8th Annual Global Automotive & Mobility Innovation Challenge (GAMIC) held during this week's SAE World Congress in Detroit.

The winners were selected from four categories:

Category One: Connected Vehicles

Holland, Michigan-based, [Jolt Energy Storage Technologies LLC](#) – Chemistry for improved safety, lower cost, and improved performance of lithium ion batteries without the need for additional investment by the battery cell manufacturers.

Category Two: Advanced materials, sensors, and manufacturing processes

Ann Arbor, Michigan-based, [Civionics, Inc.](#) – Comprehensive wireless monitoring solution that reliably tracks the performance and health of advanced engineered systems operating in demanding environments.

Category Three: New Automotive Consumer and Business Opportunities

Ann Arbor, Michigan-based, [IndustryStar LLC](#) – Patent-pending supply chain software-as-a-service platform expedites, optimizes and de-risks your supply chain.

Category Four: Automotive Innovation

Wixom, Michigan-based [SurClean](#) – Disruptive laser technology that selectively removes paint and other surface coatings from many surfaces, like aircraft, ships, bridges and other major assets.

Each winner will receive \$50,000 worth of business commercialization acceleration services and cash. Over 20 companies – including AutoHarvest, Automation Alley, AutoTech Technology Development, BrooksKushman, Detroit Regional Chamber, DENSO, Eisbrenner Public Relations, ESG Automotive, Market Results Ventures, MICHAuto, MI Innovation Alliance, MidMichigan Innovation Center, MMTTC, NextEnergy, Original Equipment Suppliers Association (OESA), Quantum Innovations, [Quinn Law Group](#),

SAE International, Sterne Kessler Goldstein Fox, Technology Highway, Techstars and TechTown – are serving as sponsors and/or Challenge mentors, with a number of sponsors providing cash and in-kind business commercialization acceleration services to the winners.

More than 40 companies from around the world applied to this year's GAMIC, and nine became finalists during the final pitch event held at NextEnergy March 10. The nine finalists included: [Algocian Inc.](#), [Brakers Early Warning Systems, Inc.](#), Civionics, Inc., IndustryStar LLC, Jolt Energy Storage Technologies LLC, [Kasi Technologies AB](#), [SPLT Enterprise](#), SurClean and [XIR Technologies](#).

Finalists made their final pitches to a judging committee made up of prominent leaders from the automotive industry, representing both OEMs and Tier One suppliers. The four winners will present again on Thursday, April 14, at 3:45 p.m. at the SAE New Innovation event Tech Hub.

For more information about the Global Automotive & Mobility Innovation Challenge, visit www.miinnovationalliance.org.

About MI Innovation Alliance

Participation in the activities of the MI Innovation Alliance (MI-IA) is open to anyone interested in fostering the growth of innovation and collaboration in Michigan, the Great Lakes region and around the globe. Our goal is to help teams and communities apply innovation and advancements in science and technology – as well as best practices and collaborations in business, academia and government – with expert commercialization connections to address some of the biggest challenges in select technology sectors. MI-Innovation Alliance is a Michigan non-profit corporation, working with MIT alumni and over 40 collaborating organizations to deliver meaningful Michigan Collaborations, with Global Impact. For more information, visit www.MIInnovationAlliance.org.

About SAE International

SAE International is a global association committed to being the ultimate knowledge source for the engineering profession. By uniting more than 137,000 engineers and technical experts, we drive knowledge and expertise across a broad spectrum of industries. We act on two priorities: encouraging a lifetime of learning for mobility engineering professionals and setting the standards for industry engineering. We strive for a better world through the work of our philanthropic SAE Foundation, including programs like A World in Motion® and the Collegiate Design Series™. For more information, visit sae.org.

About NextEnergy

Founded in 2002 as 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, NextEnergy is one of the nation's leading accelerators of advanced energy and transportation technologies, businesses and industries. NextEnergy drives technology demonstration and commercialization; delivers industry and venture development services; and provides an authoritative voice in the public sector. Since its inception, NextEnergy has helped attract more than \$1.5 billion of new investment, including programs in excess of \$160 million in which NextEnergy has directly participated. For more information, visit nextenergy.org.

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